

some red - ...
mischief they did in smoking holes &c., & all around
were wounds of crude brick ruins. The temple has
beautiful Courts & Columns left, & a great deal of the
beautiful colour, enough to give one a very vivid
idea of its beauty, the effect of an exquisite enamel.
A white ground & various tints, brick red & yellow &
green - in one Corridor east of the Porch was taken
away, & against the deep, beautiful blue they came
in contrast the stone roofing, colored blue & covered
with stars, & it was wonderful how much like the
Ind blues were! There were grand Paphian Columns
round the corridors & in some of the courtyards &c.
They had white bands of colour like Egyptian, heads,
Columns, cornices, covered with sculptures, stories,
hieroglyphs, cartouches, - some cut wonderfully, some
6 inches deep! - wonder whether plain interiors &
simple columns will look bare & as on Egyptian
Egypt. In the walls are Demeter's gifts & victories, the
right are generally very confused, owing to the utter
want of perspective, the processions of victories & the
Coronation are more easily made out. While we were
exploring & admiring, lunch was laid in one Corridor,
a rug spread over a rough set of stones laid as table, &
then rather luxurious lunches we have, cold meat, & cold

In the file below number -
Feb. 20th - '89 & on
to March 0th

My dear Sir,

I was unable to write my journal
for me, as I was very tired after Elbow, & was sure
that it should be finished up before reaching
Thebes. We were two days longer than we expected
to be, being kept back by very uncomfortable road
mud, especially on the 10th, when we were tied all day
to a mud bank; had a walk on shore, where I've
seen, the mind was less trying than tossing on the boat,
& saw such a pretty little, wee donkey with its mama.
The mud went down after Elbow, so we started
on & walked the next morning at Thebes - I heard the
blowing of steam about Elbow, & looking out on hearing
steamers, saw a fine, handsome steamer, white & gold,
towing a handsome barge, another steamer towing a
large laden with provisions, another white steamer,
& then another towing apparently horses & donkeys on
another barge - The Prince & Princess of Wales & suite - so
that was all ~~seen~~ we saw of Albert Edward - he saw
some feeble little preparations to receive him at Elbow,
half-satirical from their rudeness & simplicity, & the
ridiculous effect they must have had if he had used as

most interesting thing there was the enormous statue of
granite, shivered ^{offering} on the inner Court-yard, 807 tons it
weighed! One solid block! How do you suppose those
ancient men ever cut out such a mass at Assuan, &
then got it all the way there? I rode round it on my
donkey, & Dr. Gray climbed up the mighty mass & stood
where its face had been, for the Arabs have cut it away
for mill-stones. A black granite head of another Colossus
stood on the ground not far off; it looked puny, though
its head was nearly half as high as a man - It was a good-
day's work, & we were all tired ev. when we rowed back
to our boat - Sunday we had service, & some walked
over the temple of Luxor - Monday they were all off -
cross the river again, & see some excavations making for
a sarcophagus in an old tomb, for the Prince of Wales, & see
which the Consul, Mustapha Aga, had invited them on -
calling the Exp. before - Then to see tombs & tombs - I stayed
quietly at home - Charles & Dr. Gray dined with Mr. Caton &
Col. Legge, & word was bro't us in the Exp., Mr. & Mrs. Lewis, our
fellow-passengers in the City of Paris, had arrived - Dr. Gray
left the dinner w. Mrs. D. & I went on then to see
"all on time, & then we were back & then had dinner in
sitars, & a very pleasant time - Meantime Mr. Smith,
an American friend for some years at Luxor, studying
antiquities, called - & was very in the good fortune

riches, bread, biscuits, cake, oranges, figs, dates, cardines,
wild tea, beer, &c. - Then the Horn has a servant, &
one of our waiters, & two or three sailors, & Mr. How-
land's man-servant - I imagine our cavalcade! Charles
on & us, & every donkey has its donkey-boy, one was of
the advanced age of 8! Another 6 years old! Then our
waiter Angelo bestrides a donkey, & two carry the
lunch, one ^{for} the Horn & one for the Exp., the sailors carry
great staves, & sundry natives attack themselves, display-
ing mummy heads & hands & feet, mummyed shis,
Senale, & cat, & it of a mummy case, & mummy cloth,
the beads they were ornamented with, scarabaei,
little clay figures, &c. &c. It was sad & pathetic to
me to see these poor hands & feet & heads carefully
offered for sale, & think how carefully they had been
prepared & laid away, apparently so safely, these 3,000
years ago, to be dragged out & chattered over, for these
strangers of today to carry home as curiosities - One little
child's foot was offered us! - My donkey boy tried to
speak English, which generally consists in praising
themselves & their donkeys, "good donkey," "Wassaye
good boy," "very good donkey," &c. &c. but one does not
speak the language & understand it! - Only think tho'
how they tread all day on their bare feet, clucking &
chirruping to the donkey, & lashing on to with a stick,

unless you say "Lalla!", (no, no.) Some too carry a camp stool or four cloak all the way. And the children attend to carry the "porkies" or water bottles, which being porous, bring the water delightfully cool. — And at night they all cry for "bachsheesh", but are satisfied with a few coppers from each, say about 5 cts. —

But the patient, good, little donkeys! Imagine one with the handsome, fringed saddle-bags containing the lunch slung across, on that a large Persian rug, perhaps two, & a pair or so of camp-stools, & then most likely a waiter or the donkey boy perched on top! And the little feet trudging along the rough road, minding up & down in & out, & the meek head always bending so quietly in front — Good, little donkeys!

After lunch we have a rest, lie down on the rug, or sit luxuriously; Charles' army chair comes in play. The more energetic explore — then we all mount again. In joining the tents, are the ruins, the Palace Pavilion where the King died. He never saw much his residence, & it is in ruins, as the accounts had us. We saw some pictures of the King & his wives, sitting around, &c. &c. My father's walls, those, & the other we saw a ^{trace} of — one over the hill but we men all we could make out. — He climbed up into the first floor of the tower, found no more maps on the

sides, large, & one man, & one in the window, some statues of persons & horses, & the holes where the statues & horses had stayed, & on the stone above, the floor, one, could see at the side of the corresponding window, the King on his throne & Queen, in one of his ladies, who stands in front of him, under the Chini — But that was all we could make out. The view however was beautiful, especially of "the Fair", they looked so grand & large, sitting there in the plain so far away & yet so massive! We found in the tower room, Mr. Eaton & Col. Soffe, the Englishmen, I think, they were at Thebes some days before us. From the Pavilion we took our way across the plain to the Museum, a temple of Karnak very much admired for the beautiful columns left standing — The propylons are ruined, one wonders at the immense masses of stone, the court-yards are just over. Left standing to trace the former boundaries, the hall of columns was some beautiful pillars, almost all standing, & sundry chambers behind, but almost entirely covered, & side walls all gone, so one can ride one's donkey through everywhere — Some famous carvings, the walls of the upper part covered with Karnak fights & victories, & on one of the back chambers the King's name being inscribed on the tree of life by Thoth & some other deity. But to me the

the entrance ^{salient} of a tomb, & then me a picture of the rejected
soul driven back to earth, in the form of a pig in a boat,
driven by a monkey! Then Dr. Gray, the Schuylers, George
& the Englishmen with guide & sailor went up over the
hills on foot, the donkeys following, to get the fine view of
the plain, - a short cut to the river below, & we wound our
way back, the ride seeming even more impressive &
grand than in the morning, ~~the sunset was~~ ^{the sunset} ~~with~~ ^{with} sun set colour, & gradually the green plain ~~peep-~~
ing to view, & across a river Karnak - ~~run or showing~~ ^{run or showing} -
out, & then the moon, now up & every bright, as my little
donkey ^{boy} tried to teach me the Arabic name, & the river
listening with its rattle, as we rowed back to the boat, look-
ing cheerful with its bright light in the cabin & the
men's fire for supper. - There were quantities of American
& English boats come in to Aisur, Antonio told us next day -
all the dahabechs we had met above the Cataracts, had
come down - There were Russian, French, Denis, The
French boat next us at Aisur, & a lady belonged to the poor
little man photographing at Edon. The most innocent
kept crossing his lecture, & when I spoke asked him if he had
hurt it, & expressed regret, he answered "oh, madame! le plus
cest bon affaire!" - There were two American boats, a Mrs. Smith,
son, daughter & Miss Lawrence, Mr. & Mrs. Scott & daughter, all from
New York, the devious were with Mr. & Mrs. ^{Seary} Matzer of Boston, & an

for now & you must ask Dr. Grisehop & sit in sec. 70 &
journal giving an account of it - he & co. we were well received
& they were all so pleased! Mr. Howard & I had a rock man
right-side to me boats, the palms looked like silver feathers,
the mountains so yellow & the sky so blue; and the air was most
exp. with soft & warm & still! I went to bed at once to be ready
next morning for the tombs - the Kings - the ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the}
home until!! - Fortunately the next day was cooler & we
we were up early & across the river to find our donkeys
& a way for the "valley of the Kings" - I have found donkeys ~~very~~
much easier since I have used my cushion in my saddle, &
my camp stool, & even when with me. He had a long ride over
the sand, the river is so low, & we had to be carried a little
way from the boat to shore by the sailors; you would be a-
mused to see how easily they pick us up & carry us ashore.
- Then when we had fairly mounted the river bank, we found
rings by cotton fields, lettuce, tobacco, & saw the Pair "kittling"
grandly in the distance. - At length we reached the bare,
rocky hills, all honey-combed with openings of tombs, &
turned into a sharp valley, which wound away between
~~high~~ ^{high} mountains, bare & yellow in the sun-shine - Never
a sign of human use, all tombs ^{even} left behind, so desolate, & so
life, & these golden, copper mountains against the blue, blue
sky, & over them was sailing round & round, an enormous
bird with ^{mind} outspread, the wings most sharply marked

white & black, bordered scrolls as if we ranged side
the Road demon, which is over every temple gate &
chapel were visibly embodied to me eyes. - The ground
round the valley floor for two miles at least. We went
so very gradual we did not seem to mount at all -
But on deck among the hills, we came at last to some
cultures, the entrances of the Kings tombs - I could not
not be struck by the idea of these old monarchs coming
so far away & in a state of art, to dig out those immense
waves, made so elaborate with carving & painting, & then
sealed up & hid away, so that no man, they thought, might
find them - And I could not but picture as he wound
along, the solemn, grand processions, filing along with
the show they so loved, the earthly judgment scenes
which must have been a solemn trial & anticipate,
& for the friends - We went first into the tomb discovered
by Kirgizi - It descends a long way into the ground, with
steps & galleries & rooms & passages, & all the low recesses
covered with paintings - But it needs a profound arch-
aesthete scholar to understand what all the
scenes mean - I noticed the view consisting
monuments, carried on man's heads in wonderful files,
or carrying men or heads, snakes with wings & feet & human
heads, even fearful forms you can imagine - It is
my chief impression of the tomb, though I know there were
other things - The air was very close & I was glad to get out

into the air again - It was the tomb of Setthe 1st, the father
of Kaimsei. There is some deep meaning in all this,
relating especially to the judgment after death - The
Englishman had joined us by agreement, & we all lunch-
ed together in the entrance of a notice tomb - Then the
ladies were left to rest, & the gentlemen went to take
their - Then we explored the tomb of Kaimsei III which
was to me more interesting, as the pictures were of every
day life more - There were a series of little rooms open-
ing out each side the main entrance, where it has been
supposed the King's chief attendants, ^{or, butler, steward etc.} were buried, as
one room was of scenes from the kitchen, cooking of various
kinds, another arms, swords, spears &c, another fruits, &c, &c,
another furniture, chairs, so peaceful & rich, benches &
wooden pillows, baskets & vases & ewers & basins, very
and especially two harpers, playing on harps of peaceful shape as all the
handsome they were - Beyond were the larger rooms,
some snakes again, & many gods & goddesses, & the
effect of some magnesian red burnt was very fine.
But we don't succeed very well in burning it steadily.
Each of us had a candle, but that only lights a small
area - The columns are not so, but it shows one & see how
these most interesting monuments are being injured
by careless visitors - Bits scaled off, something interesting
cut out & carried away, & the square pillars left to support
part the roof, while sides broken up, & so many things here
we regarded in amazement & interest! - I saw two men

tombs - the sound of among the hill ponds, amidst masses
of debris of the rock, & an opening in the midst of Arab
huts, a young man seemed to be in a native stable - But
lighting candles & beginning to see, we saw the whole walls
were painted with scenes from every day life, trades, am-
usements, occupations, &c. &c. - It was a long space, high
& narrow, cut out of the rock, a straight passage running
in from the door, two side wings as you enter - In one of
these is a series of people of different countries bringing their
wits of various kinds, animals, ivory, cloth, sold & disposed in va-
rious forms, women & children - It is quite a famous scene -
Down the other passage were series of trades - Brick-making
carpenters, stone carriers, potters, &c. &c. &c. - Then the great
man in a boat in his pond, drawn about by servants in
the bank - On the opposite side parties, the ladies having
lotuses & wine & incense offered them, the gentlemen
the same, & most smelling at lotuses as hard as they
could - The figures are a foot high in rows running along,
& you may imagine the number of figures on a wall
some 12 or more feet high! They are painted on plaster,
much more delicately & nicely finished than in the
tombs of the kings; though these are carved as well
as painted - But alas, they are somewhat faded, & in
many places defaced & picked away! He spent a long
time looking at them very carefully - Then we went

Englishmen, they carried out Am. Col. Fla. - They all came up
to Karnak the day of the illumination, but only just before we left.
As we only saw them a moment, so they were off early the next
morn'. Perhaps we shall meet in Rome - Thursday the 21st,
Dr. Gray was up & off early, to breakfast with the Howlands, & across the
river with them to revisit the excavations & some new things. The
young ladies went up to Karnak to lunch there, & were joined later by
Mr. Amory & George. Charles went to dinner with Antonio, & call on Mr.
Smith, & Mustafa the Consul, & ask Sheikh, Trafa & others to
Mustafaria on our boat - Mother & I had a quiet noon of by ourselves,
& after lunch took drinks, & go first to see a temple whose ruins
between Luxor & Karnak, & chiefly interesting for the great number
of black granite statues of the goddess Bast, with a lioness' head,
beautifully polished, & sitting shoulder to shoulder round
two large enclosures - Some ruined, some one, some fallen,
some still sitting quiet there - Then we went to Karnak from
the boat, saw the remains of the avenues of sphinxes all
the way from this temple to Karnak, the other grand
avenue leading from Karnak to Luxor, & one running
at right angles with it - One fine ram-headed sphinx was
left, nearly entirely whole, rest of most only the bases - Think
what a magnificent avenue it must have been! we entered
the temple through sundry pylons & four pylons one after the
other, the one of Ptolemy being very perfect; clambered about
the ruins a little, met the photographer who took our boat at

Moslem, found home of our party, & then mother & I went with
mother to the name of Columbus, where I wandered about & looked
& looked at it from various heights, & found bits of bright colors, es-
pecially the head of one king beautifully bright, with lacrimae above
a mound of intricate, blue enamel necklaces, helmet, bracelets
There was a very high north wind, & the dust was very in a
comfortable, so mother & I went back early. Besides we were
expecting Company & dinner - And I wish I could give you
a glimpse of that most graceful & charming, lovely & child-like
Arab gentleman, Sheikh Yusuf - He is a dark Arabian - never
met us, & yet I don't think anyone thought of his colour - His
features are very handsome, soft & rounded outlines, & his smile
is a most fascinating, merry laugh! Said, the Consul
said, who came with him instead of the Consul, has much more
refined features - Yusuf was dressed in full Arab costume, bare feet
in slippers, long dark robe & silk undercoat, white turban - He
was a little nervous when we sat down to dinner, mother told
him to eat Arab fashion, as he looked frightened at his knife
& fork, & what does sweet, gracious little mother do herself, but
begin, in the prettiest way, to eat her dinner herself with
her fingers, & so eat all through - Of course he was very
much more at his ease, & though Said, who talks very good
English, we had a good deal of "sacred", merry talk - Antonio
came out strong too, said pleasant things, interpreted readily,
brought water & towel to wash his hands after dinner, had a
bottle of sweet syrup for dinner to take the place of wine.

coffee, &c. Dr. Gray has quite a name & reputation as Hakim -
And they made some fun that only what he permitted
should be eaten - The Howlands came in to tea, & the
Sheikh chanted a little for us, the first chapter of the
Koran, & as Said said very simply after it, he had said
a little prayer for us all, that we might return safely
to our friends & our homes - Then he gave us the meez-
zin call from the minaret - Then our ladies sang the
Tuni, some hymns in parts, first & second & Mr. W. had
They seemed to enjoy it, though it must sound strange
to them, as the Arabs always sing only the melody -
Then Yusuf wrote our names in Arabic for us each,
you must see how handsome they are! He is a very
learned man & accomplished Arabic scholar. When
he went away he gave him some money for the poor
of Dausor. He is the Imam (or priest) there - It was said
(And he asked leave to bless us, & said an Arabic blessing as he stood up -
Howlands idea, for she is the reader in all good things.)
The next morning, ^{we} were up early again to cross the
river, & divided into separate parties - George & Mr. Amey
went early to go again to the tombs of the Kings; the rest of
us later across the river & our old route to the Temple of
Koornek, - chiefly interesting as I thought, for the columns
like bundles of reeds - Then mother, Livin, Georgie & Charles
& Medcoun & Babo, Louisa with a sailor as attendant
& sketch the Pair - Dr. Gray & I with the guide & Hassan
The ignorance of our sailors & our time of the most interesting

had ordered some of the delicious dates; wonderfully nice they
are! We had dinner, & towards sun set a little trail on
shore, as the rain stopped. Great - Such a lovely field of barley.
People went on the Seron doline, & in the P. Mrs. Howland
brings her back in the boat, with a lantern, & barrel in Arab
Boxes! Two sheep are kept in their little boat, so wherever they go,
the sheep go too! Most picturesque effect! - Monday Off. Boat
we had great fun dividing the 66(1) little clay pots,
us & Belcham, & next day was another expedition to Abydos,
those who went before wanted to go again, & so many had not
been, wanted to go - Mrs. Howland was to stay & did not attempt
it, so he came & joined me, while the boat dropped
down the river, where the party were to come back to - People
did not go either, as she was not sure that I was - They all came
back at sun set, delighted with the ride through green fields, &
the temple - Dr. Gray says I had a good idea of the caverns from
the small tomb & Dagher el Bahree, at Abydos - It was 1/2 mile on
Monday back! - They had a joy, full day, & we had a little spitting
of rain - Wednesday was one of the loveliest days we have had
on the Nile so calm & a south wind, & about the first time we
could sail, & the little birds about the Delta in clouds! The birds
are beautiful & abundant again, reaching Egypt - We came up to
Abydos at breakfast Thursday morning. The 4th, March, found
ad. Luff's boat in front of us - We were all very amused &
of the most spirited. Doubtless we have had in Egypt & im-
perial the most of it, the speed they kept us at - We had

to a small tomb - used also by the Arabs, where we had
to crawl in, & could not stand in a large part of it -
It is not large, but covered with beautiful carvings;
one judges it must be old, because all the earlier car-
vings are more perfect & delicate. There are some pretty
scenes of ploughing, cattle, bringing furniture, &c. &c. Some
scenes of gods & goddesses, & some very fine heads, one es-
pecially of a King, seated in a very elaborate arm-chair,
unfortunately all the lower part buried in rubbish. The
tomb is very much filled up, & the statues, apparently of
the owner & his wife, much broken - There is no sign to tell
whose it was. - It was funny to see Basan a little inter-
ested at first, but soon tired, & seem to wonder what we
could see! - Then we went to the Museum, & meet
the others for lunch - The wind still held, & we could
find no place where we were sheltered from wind &
shaded from sun too; I got rather restless trying to rest, the
more as I had a bad cold - After a while they came, having
picked up Louisa on the way - After lunch Mother, Olivia,
& I took refuge under the huge shoulder of the fallen giant
as the most sheltered place, so we were the only English
ones. Then we started again, Mr. Amory & George appearing
in the distance to join us, & while they all went to ex-
plore one of the largest of all the tombs, that of a priest
of enormous extent, Dr. Gray & I went on to Dagher el Bahree.

all the ground is hollow with tombs, ^{excavated when} & has been dug all over
with little pits to find them, so only donkeys would pick
their way so securely & safely - The temple is very beau-
tifully situated, the boat was built out with fine ap-
proaches of avenue of sphinxes of which only scales of stone mark-
ing the site remain, then a long curved passage-way, ter-
race, colonnades, only the traces left, then a temple cut into
the rock, & above on the hill-side, sundr. more chambers
so, cut. The valley leads up to the face of rock, & opening out,
one catches a lovely glimpse of beautiful green plain, palm-trees,
& riv., & the distant Arabian hills - The temple has only re-
cently had great mounds of rubbish cleared away, so there is
a deal of very beautiful carving & color left - Some curious
things inside the little temple, a Doric column, Altho' un-
der the form of a cow, but the great work, & interest was in
the terraced colonnade - Here were ships of war & processions of
a grand triumph, the soldiers of various kinds, the king's throne
carried in a boat, &c. &c. - On another part were ships evidently
for sea, with large square sails furled & unfurled, planks laid
& men carrying ^{trays in baskets between two men,} various things on board, munks on the junks,
men furling the sails, provisions hung up just as our mounted
parties are now, a river ^{or water} painted below & fishes, lobsters, of every
sort & kind, capitally done, fruit trees, granaries, cattle driven
& stopping to sow, ~~grain~~ in immense heaps, gold, silver,
cloths, weighing gold in immense scales - So many charming
scenes, the colors so fresh & beautiful! How imbrovable I believe

it is all so many 1000 years old! We ~~could~~ sit as late as
the other, for my cold was troublesome, so Dr. Gray & I took
our way to the boat, & getting there, before we were off, another
& two more came up - The others were not very late
behind, & the wind having gone down, we had the hope
of getting off - While we were at dinner, the son of Sheikh
Abdallah, returned, & Smith of about 12 came in, & had
us I suppose, for a fine hunting knife Charles had sent
as a present to the Sheikh - He could not speak a word
of English, & there was not much to say - The Sultans
were not satisfied with all the days fatigue, & slipped
off, without saying a word to anyone, taking their
them, Dec. Karnak by moonlight, so it was full moon -
When they came back at 10 o'clock, three boats
started, & we made some progress, for the sailors did
as much at night as they could during the day, espe-
cially if there be moonlight; & one thing is that the wind
almost always goes down at night - Saturday was very
much given up by me to cleaning up, for Egypt is a
mighty dusty country! Just imagine where it never rains,
& people live in mud huts, & everything is always dirty &
dirty - Your clothes seem so full of dust after these ex-
travagant scrambling so into tents & boulders, it seems as if one
would never be free of it! And with these high winds
the air gets filled - Saturday was not much progress
made, & a much better to Karnak. I took up our salaries &

we had seen in the papers, was sent on board for
the "utlensen" - They had added as a plea for our stay-
ing, to celebrate the 4th of March - So Mr. A. gave them
some fire-works, & asked them to send them off for us -
The Howlands came on board & dined (we had raised
at 2, unfortunately blowing our fine wind down,) & we made
as much as we could of the day - At dinner Charles gave
the toast "Grant!" & Mr. Howland responded "Grant!
Don't you think they were both fine speeches!" - Then
we had tea on deck, & Mr. A. sent off rockets & Bengal
lights, very effective & fine, reflected in the water.

About 10 we reached the crocodile pits of Amable, Dr.
Gray & Charles had proposed going in the night, as the pits
can only be entered with lanterns; but the guides were
afraid to go after dark, so they, we went up, & contem-
ed themselves with a roll of little baby muscoid
crocodiles, at a fabulous price of fancy, but at 10 at night -
The next day we were favored with a good wind, a
large favor, & pursued on eager to reach Minich & more
news, for our letters had been ordered there - We stopped
at Beni Hassan for the Schuyler & visit the tombs,
& the wind went down, so we did not get into Minich
until the next morning, when to our great disappointment
there were no letters! - We must wait a day or so longer -
Meanwhile I close this long long account with love &
all from your ever aff. friend -

part the Governor's house on the bank, his highness walking before.
in a fur lined robe, scampering along a raised high way, and
clovers with shrubs & bushes in view, some granates & figs in
of leaves, almonds in blossom in the back ground, palm-trees in
flourishing gardens, through a corner of the town where people
were busy in shops or smoking the pipe of quietness, out again
over the high causeway, through green fields of grain, & amongst
their flocks so innocent & downy looking, beautiful cattle, ugly
buffaloes, fine camels, teats, & horses grazing about them, green
fields again, then a canal & a stone arched bridge over it, plainly
not for wheeled vehicles, from the steps down to road again, & then
turning shortly as we reached the desert mountain boundary,
we were up a very steep hill to a level, where opened the
The only interesting thing its ceiling, with peculiar squares & various tracings
of a huge cavern, but our great interest was the view, the
ocean of green of various shades spread beneath us, the misty
morn, making the distant mountains of shadows & outlines,
oblong looking pretty on our left, with 13 minarets & palm trees
prospiring in with the town - The bridge & passing people made
a nice foreground & the whole a charming view & was my
link at Egypt, for the river is so low I have seen only the
narrow banks, & have missed most of the walks &
the high views the shores have of - This did look
like the "dash-beds of Egypt" - When we descended
no other, Dr. Gray & I went first, as we had no pack
being even higher & the mountain top above us, where

me, the English women who had dressed us, had gone
to the bazaar to meet Antonio & bring red clay
coffee cups, pipe bowls, &c. While there the Howlands
passed on their way to the Consulate, those of Charles
Wale, whom they had avoided to find them, were
there - They found he had been, & gone back to a great
hall in Cairo - Meanwhile the others had joined us,
& Olivia, getting tired, went back to the boat with Mr.
Ward - Dr. Gray, mother & I were following, when a
donkey boy came after us, summoning us back - And
we found the American Consul (who by the way is a very
rich man) had requested we would all go to his house.
We followed through the side-streets, & coming through a sort
of passage, suddenly found in a narrow street, actually
two carriages, each with two horses! Two superb donkeys,
one white with crimson velvet saddle, the other same
colour - Some young men in European dress, except the
red fez, shirk hands, & being placed in the carriages be-
fore of them the narrow street, & stepping in at a large
house were ushered through courtyard & vestibule into
a large saloon surrounded with divan sofas, where we
found the Howlands - They explained how that ^{was} the
Consul, wished us very much to stay ^{all} the next day,
that they had prepared a fine Levantine, for us, & they
did seem extremely disappointed when we said we

would not stay. But the Howlands are already off,
& our donkeys were sent, & besides we were very impatient
for our letters - So we had to be going in our refusals,
though we were sorry to leave so late. Picking them up
the Consul escorted, & three hours from 20 to 18 I shall
say - And a pleasant young man, Consul at Kenna -
They are Copts, & very nice people said the mission-
ary who came in to see us - He is supported by the
Presbyterian board in the United States, & gives a
very encouraging account of his schools & work -
The house was large, & the rooms had a velvet
carpet, carved wooden ceiling, brocade furniture,
there, magenta & gold colours, sofa & chairs from Paris,
a very handsome clock & two rich porcelain French
lamps on a pier table, & yet such a mixture of
carelessness & indolence! They gave us coffee &
champagne, & we went down again to the carriages,
& were driven to the boat, ^{with} ^{two} ^{of} them accompanying us
on the donkeys - The first wheels, except a little cart
in the morning, since leaving Cairo! - When we were
on the boat again, they retired & came back with a beau-
tiful, or trick fan, & some lovely fly flaps with ivory
handles, & joking immensely that other things we
saw were not ready! Mrs. H. had the same - and
took us the boat was starting some one else was there